

“WE ENRICH LIVES THROUGH QUALITY PARKS AND PROGRAMS”

MINUTES

City of San Diego
Park and Recreation Board

March 20, 2003

Meeting held at:

City Administration Building
202 “C” Street, 12th Floor
San Diego, CA 92101

Mailing address is:

City of San Diego
Park & Recreation Board
202 “C” Street, MS 9B
San Diego, CA 92101

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present

Jim Austin, Chair
Ginny Barnes, Vice Chair
Faith Bautista
Darlene Gould Davies
Kevin Faulconer
Norman Greene
Dan Mazzella
Bob Otilie
Robert Robinson

Members Absent

Bob Otilie
Doug Perry
Olivia Puentes-Reynolds

Staff Present

Mike Behan
June Dudas
Christy Haupt
Ann Hix
Patty Jencks
Ted Medina
Mike Morrow
Sally Pearson
April Penera
Clark Ritter

Mr. Otilie, Mr. Perry, and Ms. Puentes-Reynolds gave notice that they would be unable to attend today’s meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Austin called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION MOVED/SECONDED Ms. Bautista/Mr. Green

The Minutes of January 16, 2003 were approved by the Board, with one abstention by Mr. Robinson, who did not attend the meeting. In reference to Item #102, Ms. Barnes wanted to clarify that the Board only recommended approval of the council policy for standardized designs for comfort stations. No specific designs were approved.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Mary Coakley, representing the La Jolla Shores Association, expressed her appreciation for the great job the Park and Recreation Department is doing even now during the budget crisis. She also requested that Park & Recreation not eliminate the late evening cleaning of the bathrooms at Kellogg Park.

COMMENTS OR ADDITIONS

None.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

No report.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

_____ Ms. Oppenheim reported on the following:

- The April addition of Money Magazine highlights several of the best places to vacation in 2003. Not only is the sixth hole at Torrey Pines' North Course used as the cover page of the article, but Torrey Pines Golf Course in La Jolla was chosen the top spot to play a perfect round of golf while enjoying some of the most spectacular scenery you will find anywhere.

- The Buick Invitational Golf Tournament was a huge success again this year. It has the best ratings of any tournament played so far this year. Accolades to staff for keeping the course in such remarkable shape.

- We have encouraging news from the State in that they may let some of the bonds for the Prop 40 money in time so that, if all goes as presently anticipated, the City could receive some of that funding in early January 2004. We have worked extensively with each of the council offices and a report went to committee this week. It will be going to Council soon along with recommendations for the allocation of that money by council district, and for regional and city purposes.

- Volunteers are invited to the Mission Valley Preserve on Saturday, March 22 from 9:00 a.m. to noon, to plant trees along the San Diego River.

_____ - The ADA tot lot dedication at Lindbergh Park will take place Saturday, March 22 at noon.

- Two sets of rehabilitated staircases at La Jolla Cove will be dedicated on Friday, March 21 at 9:00 a.m.

- Several new facilities have opened recently. North Clairemont Recreation Center celebrated the re-opening of their tot lot on February 6. Doyle Park opened a new leash free area for dogs on property adjacent to the park. A ground breaking was held on February 15 at Silver Terrace Park in Mission Valley. On March 29 at 10:00 a.m., the 39th Street Neighborhood Park will celebrate it's grand opening.

_____ - The Park & Recreation Department has received recognition both from the Environmental Protection Agency and the California Park and Recreation Society for the best practices training materials and the best management practices we have developed in conjunction with storm water pollution prevention.

FRIENDS OF PARKS REPORT

Mr. Walt Ladwig reported on the following:

- Representatives from twenty recreation councils were at the March 17 City Council meeting when the City Manager presented his preliminary FY 04 financial forecast. At least forty representatives are anticipated to attend the May budget hearings in support of the Park & Recreation Department.

- The Friends, along with San Diego ReLeaf, are teaming up with nine San Diego City Parks for "Friends Helping Friends Plant Trees Day" on Saturday, April 12, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

- "Golf Fore Kids and Parks" tournament will be held Saturday, May 10 at the South Course at Torrey Pines. Sponsors and donations are still needed.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent

_____ A motion was made by Mr. Robinson and seconded by Mr. Green to approve on consent the following action item:

101. Santa Clara Recreation Center Replacement Study

_____ The motion passed with one abstention by Ms. Barnes.

INFORMATION ITEMS

201. Budget Update: FY 03 and 04

_____ Ms. Oppenheim, Park & Recreation Director, referenced materials that were handed out earlier corresponding to the slide presentation that was shown. For both FY 03 (July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2003) and FY 04 (July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004), Ms. Oppenheim provided detailed General Fund background information, described the local economy and its impact on the budget and how it will effect the Park & Recreation Department, commented on the present State outlook, and provided information on the budget schedule and process.

Ms. Oppenheim listened to suggestions and questions raised by the Board members regarding the more extended use of volunteers for services Park and Recreation can no longer perform. It was also suggested that Recreation Councils be notified when equipment/repair needs are identified in their community parks and/or recreation centers so that they may engage in fund raising efforts.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Balboa Park Committee

_____ Mr. Mazzella reported that a Public Forum to discuss the Balboa Park Land Use and Circulation Study will be held at the Balboa Park Committee, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. on April 3 at the Balboa Park Club Ballroom. This is the first of four public forums that will be offered over the next year that will provide an opportunity for the public to express their ideas and opinions to the consultants.

Central Area Committee

_____ No report.

City Lakes Committee

_____ No Report.

Coastal Area Committee

_____ No meeting.

Design Review Committee

_____ No meeting. Ms. Barnes would like to see the various Committee minutes be made available on the Park & Recreation web site.

Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens' Advisory Committee

____ No meeting.

Mission Bay Park Committee

____ Mr. Faulconer reported that the only item discussed was the proposal by Councilwoman Donna Frye that would restructure the Mission Bay Park Committee and operating procedures in order to increase the representation of Mission Bay Park stakeholders in the decision making process.

Mission Trails Regional Park Citizen's Advisory Committee

____ Mr. Green reported that a major concern of the committee members is that the park is down three ranger positions, with the Senior Ranger recently being promoted to another position within the department. Due to budget constraints, two of those positions are currently frozen, however, Ms. Oppenheim reported that she has received an exemption on the Senior Ranger position and will begin the hiring process soon.

Northern Area Committee

____ No report.

Southern Area Committee

____ No report.

Tecolote Canyon Natural Park

____ No report.

Wetlands Advisory

____ No report.

Chairman Austin reminded all Board members to make sure they turned in their Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) to the City Clerk's office by April 1. There is a \$10 per day penalty for turning them in late.

ADJOURNMENT

_____The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

_____The next scheduled meeting is: **Thursday, April 17, 2003**

City Administration Building
Council Committee Room
202 "C" Street, 12th Floor
San Diego, CA 92101

Submitted by,

Ellen Oppenheim
Staff Representative

EO:sp